GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3453
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2006
SEED VALLEY
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has selected Andhra Pradesh for developing it into the `Seed Valley` of the country for production and supply of quality seed of crops to all other States of the country;

(b) if so, the salient feature of the project;

(c) whether `Agro Economic Zone` will be created with various facilities;

(d) if so, the details of facilities proposed to be provided;

(e) whether the seeds produced here will also be exported;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government plan to open such projects in other States in future; and

(h) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (h): Association of Seed Industry has submitted a model project on the Seed Valley Concept for Andhra Pradesh which could also be used for other states. The salient feature of the Seed Valley is the establishment of a Special Economic Zone in a designated geographical area of the state in which the seed and crop biotech industry is encouraged by the state Government to set up their research, production processing and quality facilities with the necessary infrastructure and other support. The would help the industry to invest in research and development for superior genetics and crop biotechnology within the new Intellectual Property regime. Small industry may be supported financially to set up research infrastructure like poly houses, biotech labs, etc. in these zones. This designated area will be a Seed Economic Zone. The Seed Valley Concept has been forwarded to Government to Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal and Orissa for their comments.